

October 06, 2014

PRESENT: Philip Bean, Chairman
Mary-Louise Woolsey, Vice-Chairman
Rick Griffin, Selectman
Rusty Bridle, Selectman
Jim Waddell, Selectman
Frederick Welch, Town Manager

I. Recognition of Service (3:50)

1. John "Jack" Donaldson

Chief Sullivan honored and thanked John "Jack" Donaldson for his 50+ years of service with the Hampton Police Department.

Mr. Donaldson thanked everyone for the recognition.

Selectman Woolsey MOVED to dedicate the 2014 Annual Report in honor of John "Jack" Donaldson SECONDED by Selectman Bridle.

VOTE: 5-0-0

II. Public Comment Period (9:27)

Mr. Norman Silberdick, 70 Tide Mill Road, speaking on behalf of Rational Tax Payers of Hampton, commented: read part of report related to the tax settlement agreement with Seabrook Nuclear Plant recently accepted by the Board of Selectmen; Seabrook Station is Hampton's largest property taxpayer prior to the settlement asked for an 80% price reduction; prior Board's rejected the request; included on the consent agenda and there was no discussion; want Selectmen to address the issue.

Mr. Michael Pierce, 16 Hedman Avenue, commented: email is michaelperce_lbc@yahoo.com and phone number is (603)926-3245; wondering why the budget isn't on the website yet; is the default budget available yet; back in March talked about taking \$1 million out of the undesignated fund balance to offset some of the tax increase; are you going to do that; \$1.6 million left in the fund to take care of tax abatements; is that going to be used or thought to be used to reduce the tax burden on the tax payers; could be included too.

Mr. Ed MacDonald, Epping Avenue, commented: confused on the Exeter Road project; seems it has grown significantly since it was first published; \$5.8 million dollars for 1.3 miles is a significant cost; need to cut the cost back one way or another; suggesting change policy on allowing non-resident taxpayers to participate on committees in town.

III. Announcements and Community Calendar (22:27)

Selectman Woolsey stated: road race went well; much faster than in the past; had questions about any entity to shut down any roads; in future say half the road; don't see that anyone should be charged \$25 for a cd; aggravated that the preliminary budget isn't online.

Chairman Bean stated: this is announcements and community calendar; can bring that up under old business.

Selectman Bridle stated: Saturday, October 11, 2014 from 2-5pm the Downtown Hampton Victorian Tavernwalk; enjoy a slice of history while sampling period inspired food and beverages prepared by chefs at the Galley Hatch, 401 Tavern, Savory Square Bistro, and the Old Salt; tickets are \$15 and last tickets will be sold at 3:30pm; a 21 and over event; more information call the Hampton Historical Society at 929-0781; Hampton Fire Department holding an open house Sunday, October 26, 2014 from 10am-2pm located at Station One, 140 Winnacunnet Road.

Chairman Bean stated: the race was fantastic; wonderful way to showcase the community; those who were inconvenienced those concerns are taken seriously; the hotels and restaurants fill up; good for the town; appreciate those who dealt with the inconvenience; wonderful event; important to Hampton.

IV. Consent Agenda (26:34)

1. Deed Waivers: 27 River Ave Map/Lot 296-139-1; 5 Gray Ave Map/Lot 163-66; 486 Winnacunnet Rd Map/Lot 222-82-5; 31 Campton St Map/Lot 304-4; 32 Ashworth Ave Map/Lot 282-183-316
2. Property Tax Payment Agreement: 5 Gray Ave - Map/Lot 163-66
3. Public Gathering License: American Legion Post 35 "Veterans Day Observances" 11/11/14; Wally's Pub 10th Annual Pig Roast for Special Olympics 10/12/14
4. Library Appointments: Full Member Richard Desrosiers; Alternate Member Mark Hughes
5. Hampton Cemetery Deeds: Janet N. Cropper; Thomas P. Levesque and Marguerite C. Levesque
6. Designation of authority and procedures for reporting liability claims to the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services

Selectman Woolsey MOVED the Consent Agenda SECONDED by Selectman Bridle.

VOTE: 5-0-0

V. Appointments (27:05)

1. Deputy Chief Ayotte
 - a. Fire Department Budget

Deputy Chief Ayotte stated: looking for a 4.03% increase; approximately 3% of that is collective bargaining agreements; remaining 1.2-1.3% is due to necessary training; also been in both new buildings for a year now and understand the needs for both to operate.

Selectman Woolsey asked: fire prevention regular wages have 70,553; is this where we have the Fire Inspector position plugged in? Town Manager Welch answered: no, it was taken

out. Selectman Woolsey asked: when we reviewed the special warrant articles last week, thought it was decided that the Fire Inspector's position was contained within the budget? Town Manager Welch stated: the request from the Fire Department was for \$118,539; that includes both; that's the sum that includes both. Selectman Woolsey asked: so Fire had it in the budget, but when you reviewed you made the adjustment? Town Manager Welch answered: made the adjustment and recommended the Board consider a petition warrant article to address the issue or put it back in the budget the way it was. Selectman Woolsey stated: hate government by warrant article.

Selectman Woolsey MOVED that on 4220.3.110 Fire Department Regular Wages Fire Prevention in the amount of \$118,539 to fund the Fire Prevention Officer position and hire 39 weeks a Fire Inspector SECONDED by.

Chairman Bean stated: going to bring this motion up; can we ask questions about the budget and then go ahead and make motions.

Selectman Woolsey asked: Fire Inspector vehicle has been pulled; possibility of pulling one of the vehicles from Public Works; nervous about electric accounts at this point; are you comfortable with that? Deputy Chief Ayotte answered: received a notice this week from Unitil and we're going to see an increase; budget what you see is what we feel it's going to take going forward minus the increases that were presented last week.

Selectman Woolsey asked: the diesel fuel for the bucket truck was moved to fire suppression? Deputy Chief Ayotte answered: correct. Selectman Woolsey asked: what is diesel fuel doing now? Deputy Chief Ayotte answered: we're on government contract and under \$4/gallon. Selectman Woolsey asked: see the tentative total at \$3,554,473? Deputy Chief Ayotte answered: that is correct.

Selectman Bridle stated: done a good job at presenting this budget so far.

Chairman Bean asked reinforce what you said; the budget is up 3.41%; is that correct? Deputy Chief Ayotte answered: no sir; currently the entire budget that you are seeing presented to you is up 4.03%; 3% of that is CBAs; budget excluding CBAs is a little over 1% increase. Chairman Bean asked: so you're essentially flat; the budget is presented at 4.0 and change; excludes the Fire Inspection? Deputy Chief Ayotte answered: as you have it presented it does. Chairman Bean asked: there are no personnel included in that? Deputy Chief Ayotte answered: other than the Fire Inspector which has been removed, there are no changes. Chairman Bean stated: okay; so there is no additional personnel.

Selectman Woolsey MOVED restore the funding for 39 weeks of a Fire Inspector position SECONDED by Selectman Bridle; no vote taken; open for discussion.

Chairman Bean asked the Finance Director to come to the table to crunch some numbers.

Selectman Griffin asked: what happens if the budget doesn't pass? Town Manager Welch stated: it's not there. Selectman Griffin stated: then we really need it to be on a warrant article if we want to have it there one way or another.

Selectman Woolsey stated: it's a need for the department. Chairman Bean stated: we're in the discussion stage of the motion; Selectman Griffin you had the floor.

Selectman Griffin stated: asking what happens if the budget doesn't pass; very few budgets have passed recently; if we really need to have a Fire Inspector why wouldn't it stay on as a warrant article to definitely have it.

Chairman Bean stated: we voted last week to remove it. Selectman Griffin stated: what happens if it doesn't pass; than we don't have a Fire Inspector? Chairman Bean stated: we have a Fire Inspector; this is for an additional.

Selectman Woolsey stated: no, we have a Fire Prevention Officer; this is for the Fire Inspector. Deputy Chief Ayotte stated: correct; we have a Fire Prevention Officer; the Fire Inspector position is currently vacant.

Selectman Bridle asked: as we sit right now, how is our budget now compared to the default budget? Town Manager Welch stated: if the default were to pass it's about a \$500,000 difference; it's \$500,000 more than the default; that's what is projected right now; not a final figure; it appears the regular budget will be higher than the default; gone through the various scenarios and that's the way it appears. Selectman Bridle stated: can run this town on default budget after default budget but we're not going anywhere; have to step up, voters need to step up; for too long pushed stuff down the road? Town Manager Welch stated: now have multiple years of default budgets; some of those figures are five and six years old; there has been no increase to the cost; expected to do what we were five or six years ago with less money and it's become more expensive to run the operation. Selectman Bridle stated: my house cost me significantly more to run this year than it did last year and a lot more than it did five years ago? Town Manager Welch stated: think that's the same with everyone.

Selectman Waddell stated: agree with Rick somewhat and Rusty; our responsibility to come up with a budget that can get passed; need to look at the needs of the town; the needs of the town have gone up; not sure the public shouldn't have a say on that aspect; if they turn it down the budget than it's lost anyways; then we're back to a default budget; responsibility to present a budget that can get passed; people need to realize that they have to go up but do they realize that.

Chairman Bean stated: agree with Selectman Woolsey that adding people on a warrant article is not good governance; have confidence in those that share the responsibilities in going to the voting polls; they are the ones that run this town not the selectmen, not the department heads, not Mr. Welch, but the individual tax payer and citizen; that's what democracy is all about; talked about this Fire budget; very small increase; there's a collective bargaining agreement; this is a flat budget essentially; it's 1%; there has been a challenge within that department; performance metrics in terms of the platform and user friendliness; it's archaic; execution phase is outdated; very high degree of dissatisfaction with people going forward with projects; if there are some changes made and a commitment to that then be more included to support that; have confidence that we've taken the operational costs off the warrants; voters decide; they're the taxpayers; respect whatever they vote for; great having Rusty on the Board; he can assure working with the Fire Department that we significantly upgrade that; enhance that whole performance metric; think it's a procedural problem; need some real command attention.

Ms. Pulliam stated: don't have workers comp rates down here so won't be exact; with FICA, Medicare, Retirement, Medical based on a 2-person which is what we do for any new position, it would be \$84,303.70; the salary part that was in the line item is \$47,986; if you

add just the salary to the Fire budget it would be a 5.47% increase for just the Fire; the tax portion and the retirement and health insurances are back in the general government.

Selectman Woolsey stated: the Fire Inspector needs to be fully qualified; what private corporation would give any credence to a board of directors that is wishy washy; talking last year about the 1988 pumper; want to see a warrant article for the pumper; Chief said unless the Board completely unanimously supports that you're wasting your time; he's correct; need the Fire Inspector position; benefit us for the new builds; requires multiple visits; critical position in the Fire Department; would like to see the initial funding for the first 39 weeks restored.

Chairman Bean stated: there's a motion and there has been a second; you are incorporating the Finance Director's monetary assessment into that. Selectman Woolsey stated: absolutely.

Chairman Bean asked: could you reiterate that? Ms. Pulliam answered: for this line item; if puts it back to the \$118,539; that's what the Chief requested; the other line items that would be affected are in general government. Chairman Bean stated: incorporated into the motion.

Selectman Waddell asked: agree with the position; are we absolutely sure this is a position we need; have the scheduling stuff that's taken place so it can be justified to the voters? Deputy Chief Ayotte stated: currently there is no Fire Prevention secretary working; Fire Prevention secretary left in July; Fire Prevention Officer is working as the secretary, Fire Prevention Officer and Fire Inspector; job is extremely difficult; have discussed how much growth in construction and business permits; has to continue with those processes and it does take multiple trips; definitely not a one person job; would absolutely be easy to justify; will be extremely busy. Selectman Waddell stated: wanted to make sure we can justify putting it in the budget; want to get a budget passed.

Selectman Bridle stated: agree with the Deputy; that position is definitely needed; it was needed when they had the two back in there beforehand when they had a secretary; now they don't even have a secretary; gentleman in there is trying to do the best he can; permit of assembly has to be done every year; Chief has been doing a lot of them; taking from his job.

Selectman Griffin stated: supported that we do this; surprised it has taken this long; don't have faith that the budget is going to pass.

Selectman Woolsey MOVED restore the funding for 39 weeks of a Fire Inspector position in the amount of \$118,539 SECONDED by Selectman Bridle.

VOTE: 5-0-0

Selectman Woolsey MOVED to increase the Fire Department budget in the amount of \$325,824.68 for the purpose of hiring from May 1, 2015 on, four additional firefighters SECONDED by Selectman Bridle for discussion.

Selectman Woolsey stated: motion relates to serve and protect; mission has changed dramatically over the years; provide emergency services from two stations around the clock totaling 8,760 hours of shift coverage per year; taxable property according to the Assessor as of August 15, 2014 is \$2,078,983,500; done impressive job of upgrading the department; Achilles heel is still staffing; dangerous, physically demanding, high risk profession; keep receiving letters from thankful residents; medical rescue component makes up at least half of the department; consistently have three fire fighters doing the work of five; took ten

personnel in the water rescue; ambulance response from the town station to the beach during the summer time is insane; when everyone is tied up in a water rescue what happens to the rest of the people in town; asked Chief if those builders should pay for a higher ladder truck; answered no if it goes above then we'll fight the fire from inside the building; daily do two jobs Fire and Rescue; intent to fund four firefighter positions in the 2015 budget and another four firefighter positions in the 2016 budget to bring it to a 36 man firefighter crew; don't stand up to our level three rating with the ISO every property owner in town will have property insurance premiums increase for the next ten years; doing the responsible thing by promoting public safety.

Selectman Griffin stated: this is the type of thing that will seal that there will be a default budget; would love to add some people but don't think this is the time to do it; public is leery of unanswered questions at the Fire Department right now; don't see that this is the right time.

Selectman Bridle stated: can't support putting on four additional people when we don't fill man for man coverage; hurts when we run things uncovered; need to start with our man to man coverage; need to make sure we can support the Chief; when he needs to have more manpower, he'll come to the Board.

Selectman Waddell stated: Mary-Louise has made a very persuasive argument; agree with Rick and Rusty at this point don't think it would pass; put it in the budget just guaranteeing it won't go; Chief didn't come to the Board so just not a go for now.

Chairman Bean stated: every department in this town has part-time employees; good feeder system for people to come along and develop skills; department doesn't have a full complement of part-time employees; Police Department fully embraces; until see some part-time options don't support anything other than that prior person we voted on earlier tonight.

Selectman Griffin stated: supports what Rusty had to say.

Selectman Woolsey asked: where is the money coming from for the full shift; don't you think he'd be filling the shift if he had the money? Selectman Bridle answered: been told the shifts have been pretty well covered? Deputy Chief Ayotte stated: two out on workman's comp on long-term injury but doing very well. Selectman Bridle stated: are covering them right now; had some in the past that didn't; as of late the Chief working within his budget has been able to do it. Deputy Chief Ayotte stated: what we are doing now is we're running down to eight. Selectman Bridle stated: maybe need to look at some point is increasing that coverage so we can keep it at the nine minimum.

Selectman Woolsey stated: the physical wear and tear on the men in the department when they are doing what they do.

Chairman Bean stated: Rusty Bridle, a retired Fire Captain; doesn't need to be lectured.

Selectman Woolsey MOVED increase the Fire Department budget in the amount of \$325,824.68 for the purpose of hiring from May 1, 2015 on four additional firefighters SECONDED by Selectman Bridle.

VOTE: 1-4(Bean, Griffin, Bridle, Waddell)-0

2. Keith Noyes, DPW Director (1:00:33)
 - a. Exeter Road Reconstruction Project Presentation

Mr. Noyes stated: going to hand this over to our project engineers at CMA Engineers Phil Corbett and Josh Bouchard; they've done the bulk of the work.

Mr. Corbett stated: developed preliminary design and recommended approach moving forward; extends from Route 101 until the train bridge on High Street; established some goals and priorities of the project moving forward; started with gathering information; had public input meeting; developed concept plans; worked on cost estimates; original roadways were paved in the 1920s at 18' wide; since has been widened; multiple pavement overlays and trench patches; diminishes some of the cheaper options moving forward; it lasts for a year or two but the cracks come through; found the sewer in bad condition; it's a vitrified clay pipe which are prone to failing over time; during the public input meeting drainage especially on the south side was a huge concern; issues with containing the drainage; based on the gathering of existing conditions and evaluation recommended an approach for the best long term serviceability; a full box reconstruction; eleven foot travel lanes and four foot shoulders; looked at replacing sections of the sidewalks; a lot of the sidewalk in good condition and could be reused; adding significant curbing for drain water; roadway needs to be reconstructed; drainage needs to be significantly improved; looking at two foot gravel base and five and a half foot pavement section; in four foot shoulder didn't look at it as a dedicated bike lane; would improve safety; section of sidewalks need to brought to ADA compliance fixing some of the ramps and approaches; looking at curb extensions; pavement in poor condition because of insufficient drainage; not fixing those issues and just repaving the road doesn't address long-term needs; potential to flatten out approach of Towle Farm Road; recommend replacing sewer mains; not a good solution to spend millions of dollars on the road and not fix the sewer mains; pipe bursting may be a cheaper option if you are not repairing the roadway; roadway is about \$1.2 million for base gravel and pavement; pedestrian improvements and drainage improvements bring it to \$4 million; large contingency and inflation factor since it won't be done this year or next year.

Selectman Woolsey asked: the road has got to be done; most heavily traveled road outside of Route 1 in town; is what you are proposing comparable to the interstate? Mr. Corbett answered: all the loading is from truck traffic; there is a higher than normal percentage of trucks on Exeter Road; what's been propose is what is much thicker than a residential roadway but less than a highway. Selectman Woolsey asked: do you think this is something that can stand up; are you talking about drainage on both sides of the road? Mr. Corbett answered: absolutely; the drainage issues with private properties is on the south side; the roadway itself there are a lot of drainage issues on the north side. Selectman Woolsey stated: huge amount of traffic coming out of the Industrial Park; wouldn't do anything with bike paths on that road; very dangerous road; what about other utilities? Mr. Noyes answered: checked with gas and water and they are all set.

Selectman Woolsey asked: estimated time to complete; going to be a big mess because of diverting traffic; it's going to be a challenge? Mr. Noyes answered: it's going to be over a two year period; do utilities done prior; if funding passes in 2015 do design work in 2015 and bid the work in the Fall of 2015 and do 80% of construction of 2016 and the rest in 2017. Selectman Woolsey stated: going to have to do detours? Mr. Corbett stated: be very aggressive to do it in one year; would have one lane traffic and alternating lanes. Selectman Woolsey stated: looking at the million dollar contingency makes me nervous; don't want to see any more done on it more than we have to? Mr. Noyes stated: it's just the preliminary

design at this point; that's why there is such a huge contingency at this point; once in final design would tighten up the contingency down to about 10-15%; then project would be bid; prices are coming in all over the place; this early in the process we estimate high and refine that over time. Selectman Woolsey asked: that's the estimate right now but you'd refine it before public vote? Mr. Noyes answered: no; we will do it like we did Church Street. Selectman Woolsey asked: would include it in the warrant article; the traffic situation compounds the problems; going to be a challenge; very confined area.

Selectman Griffin stated: can appreciate all of this but some can be cut out; need a barebones approach to this.

Selectman Bridle stated: talked about the road now for a few years; roads keep getting worse and worse; it's the gateway to our community; very heavily traveled; needs to have the work done; need to do the sewer and drainage while we can; other roads that have been neglected for years; haven't spent any money on infrastructure in years; coming back to bite us now; have to look at projects like this; hoping \$1 million contingency can be significantly reduced; make a warrant article and bring it to the voters; road is going to be very difficult to do; having 11' wide lanes and 4' shoulder is a lot safer than no shoulder they have out there; don't like the price; but it's reality; make sure before we write the warrant article that is very well refined; let the voters decide if that's what they want; it's long overdue.

Selectman Waddell stated: concur; when present this need to take into consideration to what people said; need comparisons; not a person in town that wouldn't say Exeter Road doesn't need to be done; has to be done properly; make sure we present it properly; need to know they are getting their money out of it; it's a bullet that has to be bit; everyone says do it but when it comes to a warrant article we need to make sure it's affordable.

Chairman Bean asked: is this New Hampshire Route 27? Mr. Noyes answered: yes. Chairman Bean stated: that's about a forty mile road; how does the rest of that road look; has there been integration; sure you've reached out to those other communities; starts up by Hooksett; would be interested in all the dialogue looking down that road; definitely achieve economies of scale on that with other townships; do that with Police and Fire; couldn't agree more with public comment tonight; has a significant amount of wobble; don't have any information to look at; Department of Transportation is doing 200 miles of road; be interested in seeing your grabbing off the shelf plans for simple asphalt and engineering; SB 367 is interesting; calls for \$200 million dollars of bonding for widening Interstate 93; map shows what the state is doing with the eighteen cents that the increase in the gas tax that all of us are paying for in Hampton; we sit here and have to cook up our own asphalt; we're being taxed; the state's borrowing money up to \$200 million funded by the eighteen cents for the gas tax; interested in what you've pulled off the shelf; interested in what your liaison is with other towns; it's a forty mile road; have a very short synopsis here; couldn't agree more with public comment tonight; a million dollar contingency on a \$1.2 million asphalt job; there is just no way that this is enough information to pass muster; \$5.8 million; there is just not a lot; spent hours studying the I&I study; pulled more off the state's website than I am provided from the town here; I don't endorse it; don't understand it; have more questions than answers; it's very expensive; it's really two issues; not just paving the road; have to look at the infrastructure; haven't fully exploited those options; the Board makes motions and passes what they want; costs are excessive; don't think the homework has been done; in no position to say anything but that road is in terrible shape; haven't done due diligence in terms

of producing estimates, courses of action, phasing, liaison with the state, and other communities down the pike on this road.

Selectman Woolsey stated: comparing this to Interstate 93; this is unique because this is a neighborhood road; subjected to tremendous abuse; unique situation; going to be a big problem with traffic diversion when construction starts.

Selectman Waddell asked: where are we going with this right now; where are you looking to go with this? Mr. Noyes answered: proposed a warrant article based on their estimate; you'll be reviewing at some point; done enough with the money that was allotted; original plan was to do a full design so we got better costs; cut back to \$75,000 to spend; only want to do a portion of the design; this is what you get; the higher end of the contingency at this point in the project. Selectman Waddell stated: Exeter Road has to be done; need to know where we are moving from here; not comfortable just saying we are going to let it sit here.

Selectman Bridle stated: don't need to let it sit here either; still uncomfortable with the \$5.8 million; saw some things and heard about the cuts for the crosswalks and curbing; do we really need that; in the grand scheme of things it's probably the right thing to do. Mr. Noyes stated: those are insignificant costs associated with a project of this magnitude; real costs are replacing the storm drain system and the sewer system. Selectman Bridle stated: that is the most expensive cost; I agree. Mr. Noyes stated: as far as those other features, they can be decided down the road; decide to pull out the few things he is talking about it's probably around \$50-60,000 range; wanted to look at the worst case scenario and come in with the best design at this point to move forward with; need to go to the next step in the process to get to the final design stage.

Chairman Bean asked: have you given us the full work product? Mr. Noyes answered: no, that is the executive summary report. Chairman Bean stated: nobody makes any decisions on a PowerPoint slide, the two easels, and an executive summary; requesting the full documentation on what we've paid; how much was the analysis; how much did you pay CMA? Mr. Noyes answered: \$46,000. Chairman Bean stated: want to see \$46,000 worth of work before talking about anything; always requested information; can't talk about it. Mr. Noyes stated: wasn't asking for a vote tonight. Chairman Bean stated: this is the Board that is going to vote on it; you're not going to vote on it and we don't have the information; there is \$45,000 of information and it's not here; so how can we talk about it. Mr. Noyes stated: trying to explain it. Chairman Bean stated: we need to read the product; when are we going to get it? Mr. Noyes stated: in a couple of weeks; wanted to have this meeting before we prepared the final report so we could incorporate any of the comments you may have or the public has. Chairman Bean asked: is that \$45,000 fully spent? Mr. Noyes answered: no.

Chairman Bean asked: so your product isn't complete? Mr. Corbett answered: wanted to make sure there wasn't any major changes that wanted to be implemented to the approach we had done; a lot of the \$45,000 is the field investigation and field survey. Chairman Bean asked: where is that data? Mr. Corbett answered: that will be included in the final report. Chairman Bean asked: when is that final report coming? Mr. Corbett answered: if this is how you want to proceed, we can have something done in a couple weeks. Chairman Bean stated: that's what I am waiting for; that's plenty of time to deal with warrant articles; plenty of time for public input. Mr. MacDonald stated: it was mentioned that this may be phased;

utilities would go first; that would be an opportunity to look at that pipe bursting; not going to excavate the whole roadway; might get some savings by doing that.

Chairman Bean stated: made myself clear; back to the Board.

Selectman Woolsey stated: don't want to be stuck with design build like at the beach; want to make sure we are spending what we need to spend to get the preliminary plans together; want to make sure we have the ducks in a row; want to see what the whole project will encompass and a realistic description of the basics; sewer, drainage and road surface that will hold up.

Selectman Griffin stated: very supportive of the Chairman's approach.

Selectman Bridle stated: agree with the Chairman's approach but want to make sure that we know that Keith is working with what he was given; orders to deal with; trying to do that; look forward to seeing the rest of the report.

Selectman Waddell stated: agree with what you're doing; looking for input tonight; once we get a final report we'll be able to make a decision on that final report; as long as you come through with a good final report that will make a much better way of doing it.

VI. Town Manager's Report (1:37:11)

1. The Selectmen will not be meeting on October 13th due to the holiday but will be conducting a regular meeting on October 9th in place thereof.
2. The Town still has received no response from Three Four Nine Equity Assets, LLC regarding the deplorable condition of their property at the corner of Winnacunnet Road and Lafayette Road.
3. The Town has received its distribution of the portion of the \$17.1 million due from the Health Trust and I have instructed Finance to begin the refund calculation based on the prior distribution policy that was agreed to for the return of these funds.
4. We have received notice from the Retirement System that they will begin issuing fines for incorrect submissions. Those fines will be assessed against the Town whether or not those errors are the result of the Town's action or State mistakes.
5. The Town Auction will be held on October 18th starting at 9AM.

Town Manager Welch added: in regards to the notice from the Retirement System, make reports to the State and sometimes they get in the system and sometimes they don't; if they haven't put it in, we're going to get fined \$25/day until everything is fixed; whether it is our fault or theirs; just so you know where the increased revenue for the state is coming from; it's coming from us; asked Finance Department to do an analysis of Channel 22 revenue and expenses; based on analysis estimate the balance in the Channel 22 account at the end of the year to be \$104,562; based upon that recommend the Board consider granting the funds to the school that were requested.

Selectman Woolsey asked: I didn't catch the last part? Town Manager Welch stated: estimated final balance in the Channel 22 fund is \$104,562; based upon that recommend the Board consider giving the school the funds they requested. Selectman Woolsey asked: lights at Eaton Field; have the trees been taken down; are the light stanchions going up; are the trees holding it up? Town Manager Welch answered: no the vendor is; they have requested the tree people to meet with them; believe they are meeting this week; once the portion of the trees to be taken down has been determined, work will begin to put up the stanchions.

Selectman Woolsey asked: did we not talk to tree people before this? Town Manager Welch answered: believe we did; problem was they couldn't tell us what needed to come down. Selectman Woolsey stated: distribution of the \$17.1 million; this is the final wrap-up of the 2010, 2011, 2012 settlement; still have the years from 2003 on hanging out there; are any of the towns talking about pursuing any action against the Local Government Center and the HealthTrust; there was no way of policing because the legislature let that slide; they had town funds that were not returned via surplus like they should have been; are you hearing anything from any other communities? Town Manager Welch answered: no one has approached us at all with any other information.

Selectman Woolsey stated: that's a shame; the list you gave us for the Town Auction, is that a complete list or are there any additions being made to it? Town Manager Welch stated: don't know that there are any additions; none have been presented to me; tried to freeze the list so we'd have a definite list to work with. Selectman Woolsey asked: are the requirements for town auctions different from someone acting as a professional auctioneer? Town Manager Welch stated: has to be an employee; hired Mr. Lally.

Selectman Bridle asked: the Town of Hampton Falls is working on the Taylor River Bridge; there is a dip at the joints; are we going to do anything with our side of the joint? Town Manager Welch stated: see what they are doing; it'd be nice if we did it together and did it right. Selectman Bridle stated: they are planning on doing theirs shortly? Town Manager Welch stated: I'll talk to Keith in the morning; ask them to go down and take a look and see what is going on; find out what their final solution is.

Selectman Waddell asked: no response from the Three Four Nine Equity; are we planning on doing anything? Town Manager Welch answered: haven't received a response from them; received a response from someone telling us they are their representative counsel; appears the property is owned by two individuals who don't see eye-to-eye on the maintenance of it; understanding is that their counsel is going to see that it gets done.

Selectman Waddell asked: are other towns in an uproar of the retirement system; if they make a mistake we pay a fine? Town Manager Welch answered: haven't heard from other towns; just got it the other day; people are going to be excited particularly if it's not their mistake. Selectman Waddell asked: do we wait until we get a fine? Town Manager Welch stated: wait until we get zapped; then we're going to zap back; if it's our fault, it's our fault. Selectman Waddell stated: keep getting emails about the safety at the seawall; can we put a sign in the town lot saying there is free parking? Town Manager Welch answered: as long as it's on town property than yes. Selectman Waddell stated: not a bad idea to put a sign there.

VII. Approval of Minutes (1:46:46)

1. September 22, 2014 Nonpublic and Public Sessions

Selectman Woolsey MOVED to approve the September 22, 2014 Public Sessions minutes SECONDED by Selectman Bridle.

VOTE: 4-0-1(Griffin)

Selectman Woolsey MOVED to approve the September 22, 2014 Nonpublic Sessions minutes SECONDED by Selectman Bridle.

VOTE: 4-0-1(Griffin)

VIII. New Business (1:47:22)

Selectman Griffin stated: at the Planning Board this last week, one of the issues came up about a potential new road and putting in the new street lights; not sure where we stand right now; what's the town's responsibility for a new road; do we have any policies; if we do have policies we follow, how do we brief the new Town Planner? Town Manager Welch stated: brought two things; new fire hydrants and street lights; sent a letter to the Planning Board and Planner since these deals with appropriations and since there are no funds in there other than those approved by the Board of Selectmen; they need to come to the Board of Selectmen for approval of street lights on new streets and hydrants on new streets; they have been doing that on a regular basis; several of the subdivisions that they have approved don't have streetlights that are paid for by the town; that has been incorporated into their approvals.

Selectman Griffin asked: does that mean their Home Owner's Association pays them? Town Manager Welch answered: either an association or they have some light connected to a particular house by consent; also have been coming in for approval for fire hydrants; they've known about this process for a couple of years; been told if they don't come the town will not pay for them; there is no way to pay for them without the Board's consent.

Selectman Griffin asked: can we send a letter and let them know that; there is a different feel I'm getting from the Planning Board than what you are saying? Town Manager Welch stated: we can reinforce it by sending them another letter. Selectman Griffin asked: what about for the new Town Planner? Town Manager Welch answered: he'd automatically get a copy; probably has a file downstairs dealing with this issue. Selectman Griffin asked: can this letter be sent before the next Planning Board meeting? Town Manager Welch answered: could have it there tomorrow or the next day.

IX. Old Business (1:51:23)

1. 2015 Budget Approvals

Town Manager Welch stated: better off sticking with Finance guiding us through.

Ms. Pulliam stated: budget is actually on the website; it's under monthly financials; Paul had said it was up there and I double checked; it's up there. Selectman Griffin asked: since when has it been up there? Ms. Pulliam answered: went up last week after being asked to put it up there.

Chairman Bean stated: in public comment there was desertion that it was not on the website; it is on the website? Ms. Pulliam answered: yes; the same exact spot you find monthly financials; do have corrections on votes that have been previously taken; some changes have been changed so need to revote; got an updated sheet of all the actions that need to be taken. Chairman Bean stated: can you explain for situational awareness for the public? Town Manager Welch added: Board needs to discuss that before we approve it. Ms. Pulliam stated: we can skip the Town Manager; start with the Budget Committee; when met and voted they hadn't had their first meeting to give their budget; originally voted for \$2,500; should be \$2,556.

Selectman Woolsey MOVED to approve the amended 2015 Budget Committee budget in the amount of \$2,556 SECONDED by Selectman Griffin.

VOTE: 5-0-0

Ms. Pulliam stated: not sure if ready to do Finance Department yet; didn't get voted on originally because we were working on bank service charges; we met with Provident Bank; Ellen met with TD Bank; she's spoken with Citizen's Bank; waiting to get back numbers; bank service charges from before haven't really changed; they were being run through the interest income; way back in the day the income interest was exceeding the expense; continued to run through there until last year; that's why it's on the books now; putting \$35,000 in there is cutting it close; Ellen is getting presentations together; can wait for the information but the books are going to the Budget Committee next week.

Selectman Woolsey stated: have no problem resolving that now? Ms. Pulliam stated: the amount for the whole Finance Department is \$364,199.

Chairman Bean stated: what do you think the drop-dead time is for information back if we can achieve some gains for the taxpayers? Ms. Pulliam stated: wouldn't have it before the budget committee; probably in the next two weeks.

Selectman Woolsey MOVED to approve the 2015 budget for Finance Department in the amount of \$364,199 SECONDED by Selectman Griffin.

VOTE: 5-0-0

Ms. Pulliam stated: next one is Audit Services; budgeted amount is \$33,350; hasn't changed.

Selectman Woolsey MOVED to approve the 2015 Audit Services budget in the amount of \$33,350 SECONDED by Selectman Griffin.

VOTE: 5-0-0

Ms. Pulliam stated: Legal we are waiting on; should wait for Personnel Administration for the budget; it keeps changing; Zoning Board the incorrect total was voted; should have been for \$5,310; new vote needs to be taken there.

Selectman Griffin MOVED to amend the 2015 Zoning Board budget in the amount of \$5,310 SECONDED by Selectman Woolsey.

VOTE: 5-0-0

Ms. Pulliam stated: the Town Buildings we were waiting for report back from the Energy Committee. Town Manager stated: the rates are going to increase; putting in the budget according to the bills we've received. Selectman Woolsey asked: is that the \$105,041? Ms. Pulliam answered: yes.

Selectman Woolsey MOVED to approve the 2015 Town Buildings budget in the amount of \$105,041 SECONDED by Selectman Griffin.

VOTE: 5-0-0

Ms. Pulliam stated: Parking Administration in the amount of \$74,904; talked about it that night but it was never voted on.

Selectman Woolsey MOVED to approve the 2015 Parking Administration budget in the amount of \$74,904 SECONDED by Selectman Griffin.

VOTE: 5-0-0

Town Manager Welch asked: want to hold on Municipal Insurance? Ms. Pulliam stated: yes; should wait; those numbers are now going to change; Police and Fire; not sure if you want to vote on the big ones tonight or if you're saving those; have the amounts. Chairman Bean stated: wait until Thursday; have time to do a little more research. Ms. Pulliam stated: Emergency Management and Civil Defense in the amount of \$1,000; never addressed at all.

Selectman Woolsey MOVED to approve the 2015 Emergency Management and Civil Defense in the amount of \$1,000 SECONDED by Selectman Griffin.

VOTE: 5-0-0

Ms. Pulliam stated: Hydrants did get voted on; there was a decrease. Town Manager Welch stated: the Water Department called and stated they are decreasing our billing by 1%. Ms. Pulliam stated: that's going to drop from \$506,000 to \$486,904.

Selectman Woolsey MOVED to amend the 2015 Hydrants budget in the amount of \$486,904 SECONDED by Selectman Bridle.

VOTE: 5-0-0

Ms. Pulliam stated: Animal Control with Police; talked about but not voted on.

Selectman Woolsey MOVED to approve the 2015 Animal Control budget in the amount of \$59,772 SECONDED by Selectman Bridle.

VOTE: 5-0-0

Ms. Pulliam stated: the Mosquito Control was never voted on; in budget for \$106,000; heard from Ann Keiser today; she suggested if Board would like to adjust that done by \$3,000; had money left over this year.

Selectman Woolsey MOVED to approve the 2015 Mosquito Control budget in the amount of \$103,000 SECONDED by Bridle.

VOTE: 5-0-0

Ms. Pulliam stated: Recreation and Parks; want to save that for Thursday with the larger departments. Selectman Bridle stated: would like to wait until Thursday. Ms. Pulliam stated: Conservation Commission was on the first night; believe you voted on the budget before the amounts were put in; amount \$32,740.

Selectman Woolsey MOVED to amend the 2015 Conservation Commission budget in the amount of \$32,740 SECONDED by Selectman Bridle.

VOTE: 5-0-0

Selectman Woolsey asked: how firm are we on the Muni Debt? Ms. Pulliam stated: that is firm; voted on it. Chairman Bean asked: can you take us forward on the process? Town Manager Welch stated: looking at finishing up on Thursday the ninth; hopefully we can do that; Kristi needs to finish up on the books and get them to the Budget Committee on the 17th; have \$572,663 difference between budget and what we projected as the default; still figures coming in; estimating things at this point; get the Fall budget to the Board to vote on; looked at revenues; there is a revenue change from last year of \$6,797,400 to \$6,877,100; increase of about \$457,000; pretty conservative when predicting revenues; pretty firm on revenues at the moment,

Chairman Bean stated: the budget will be wrapped up on the 9th; on the 17th it will be ready for the Budget Committee; can you address your concept of the warrant article process. Town Manager Welch stated: the Budget Committee would like to see those as soon as possible; have a draft of most of the warrant articles at this point; needs to be run by Town Counsel; will do that tomorrow; should be able to feed those out in a week to week and a half.

Chairman Bean stated: have had issues with people coming in at the last minute; does the Board have a preference of establishing our own deadline; if you're looking for taxpayer money; for favorable consideration we've had people come in at the eleventh hour; don't think that's appropriate.

Selectman Woolsey stated: can't stop them from bringing things in if it's in the legal deadline. Town Manager Welch stated: petition warrants are early January. Selectman Woolsey stated: only so much fine tuning you can do. Town Manager Welch stated: departments are shut out at this point. Chairman Bean stated: if people are out there, get a better consideration if you get it in early.

Selectman Woolsey asked: going to discuss that memo we got this evening on Thursday? Town Manager Welch stated: either tonight of Thursday night; it's up to the Board. Chairman Bean asked: is this the non-public issue? Selectman Woolsey answered: yes. Chairman Bean stated: would like to address that tonight.

Selectman Waddell asked: Thursday we'll have how much percent the budget is going up? Town Manager Welch answered: yes we'll have a best guess; that's about it until you actually vote. Selectman Waddell asked: and what impact it will be? Town Manager Welch answered: yeah we'll give you the impact. Chairman Bean stated: we'll make sure Kristi knows that.

Selectman Woolsey stated: the Budget Committee makes the budget; we're just doing proposed expenditures and revenues; no sense in getting too hysterical because we have no control over that.

Chairman Bean stated: put on the website how to get to the budget. Town Manager Welch stated: it's been up there; know people are having difficulty finding it.

Chairman Bean asked: in terms of going to a non-public; do we go out of this meeting? Town Manager Welch stated: leave this meeting and go into the non-public.

Selectman Bridle MOVED to leave the public meeting to enter a non-public meeting under RSA 91-A:3, II (a) SECONDED by Selectman Griffin.

By roll call, unanimous.

VOTE: 5-0-0

Chairman